

WisDOT: Interactive mobile training facility will promote motorcycle safety at two local events

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Interactive mobile training facility will promote motorcycle safety at two local events

THE REF (Transportable High-End Rider Education Facility) operated by the Wisconsin Motorcycle Safety Program will be at events in Madison and Oregon in the upcoming week.

Built with federal funding, the 40-foot-long REF trailer is more than just a classroom. It is an interactive learning environment for both riders and non-riders to learn more about sharing the road, crash avoidance and awareness of traffic and road hazards. To see THE REF, visit the web at <http://www.zeroinwisconsin.gov/TheREF/Default.asp>

Media are invited to tour THE REF and try out its state-of-the-art features.

Contact: Bill Murphy, [\(608\) 209-2828](tel:6082092828)

WHEN: Thursday, August 10
5 to 8 p.m.

WHERE: **City of Madison Police Department National Night Out**
Aldo Leopold Park
2906 Traceway Drive
Madison, WI

Contact: Jonathan Hutchings, [\(847\) 910-2537](tel:8479102537)

WHEN: Saturday, August 12
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WHERE: FlatFest Car Show

Madison International Speedway
1122 Sunrise Road
Oregon, WI

THE REF features include:

- Two SMARTrainers (Safe Motorcyclist Awareness and Recognition Trainers) that are traffic simulators designed to give riders a real-world experience riding in traffic and on public roads.
- Touch screen monitors for testing knowledge of motorcycle safety.
- Distracted Driving Simulator, letting users experience the consequences of distracted driving without putting themselves or anyone else at risk.
- Impairment Simulation Goggles, a hands on prevention tool that allows people to experience with a sober mind what it's like to be under the influence of alcohol.

THE REF and other Wisconsin Motorcycle Safety Program rider-training initiatives are designed to save lives and reduce injuries among all motorcyclists—from beginners to experts.